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LETTER DATED 8 MARCH 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I am pleased to transmit herewith two information bulletins concerning the steps taken by the Iraqi side during January and February 1993 pursuant to resolution 687 (1991) and the Memorandum of Understanding.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
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Annex I

Information bulletin

We give below a summary of the steps taken by the Iraqi side during January 1993 pursuant to resolution 687 (1991).

I. Inspection teams

1. Visit of the seventeenth nuclear inspection team (UNSCOM 49). The seventeenth nuclear inspection team, composed of eight inspectors and headed by Mr. Zifferero, visited the country from 25 to 31 January 1993. The team carried out inspections at the following sites:

(a) Visit to the Tuwaitha site, Tuesday, 26 January 1993

The visit covered the main depots, the 14-Tammuz reactor, the Wardiyah depots and a number of buildings, in addition to the radiochemical building, from which mechanical levers were moved to the main depots, which were then sealed.

During the visit, the seals and the seal numbers were reinspected, some photographs were taken, and the fuel cells in the core and tank of the 14-Tammuz reactor were checked.

(b) Visit to the Rabi' (Nida') Establishment, Wednesday, 27 January 1993

The visit covered all the workshops and buildings destroyed as a result of the United States missile attack on 17 January 1993, as well as the salvage and repair operations currently being carried out on the factory machinery in the Dijlah (Zaura') Establishment workshop. The seals formerly placed on some of the machines in the establishment were reinspected, and video films and still photographs were taken of the impact of the destruction and the activities currently undertaken to restore the establishment.

The head of the team stressed that the position of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was the application of the plan for future monitoring to some of the machinery and this Establishment, not its destruction.

(c) Visit to the Jazirah site, Thursday, 28 January 1993

The visit included the viewing of tanks and barrels of natural uranium residues and a visit to some destroyed factory buildings, as well as a visit to the machinery and equipment depots to check the seals.

The team held two meetings with the director of the factory for the purpose of finding out the future operations of the site. The team requested a study on the site's future activities. The study will be delivered to IAEA

at the end of next month. The head of the inspection team confirmed that all the equipment and materials at the site that had not been sealed might be utilized.

(d) Visit to the Tarmiyah site, the Nasr Establishment and the Hattin Establishment, Saturday, 30 January 1993 et seq.

Tarmiyah site

The purpose of the visit was to reinspect and photograph the seals and also to look at some of the chambers and take the numbers of the pumps of the sealed central cooling systems.

Nasr Establishment

The visit was a surprise one made for the purpose of looking at and photographing some of the seals that had been placed on the machines.

Hattin Establishment

The visit was for the purpose of looking at the aluminium piping, taking samples of it and photographing it.

(e) Sunday, 31 January 1993

Before its departure, the team visited the Nasr Establishment and then left the country at 11.30 a.m.

(f) Meetings

A number of meetings were then held between the inspection team and their Iraqi counterparts. The following matters were discussed:

(i) The IAEA working group requested the updating of the list of machinery, materials and equipment provided earlier by the Iraqi side. The Iraqi side provided the team with the updated list.

(ii) The IAEA working group requested the transportation of the liquid fuel from the Tarmiyah site to the Tuwaitha site. The Iraqi side handed over to the team a letter conveying its agreement to such transportation.

(iii) The Iraqi side requested that sealed pumps and parts of the cooling towers at the Nasr Establishment might be used. The Iraqi side handed over a letter to that effect to the inspection team, which promised to study it.

(iv) The question of the list of purchases was discussed, and the Iraqi side reiterated its request that a unified list should be drawn up by the Special Commission and IAEA containing all questions and inquiries about the nature of purchases, so that it could be discussed with the Iraqi side in a unified and definitive manner.

(v) The Iraqi side requested that permission be given to use some of the machinery that had been sealed by the inspection team but had a civilian industrial function, and the team promised to settle this matter in the near future.

(g) Statements

On 30 January 1993, the head of the inspection team stated to Agence France Presse that the team's one-week mission in Iraq had been good and fruitful.

2. Visit of the ballistic missiles inspection team (UNSCOM 48)

(a) On 25 January 1993, the ballistic missiles inspection team visited Iraq. The team was composed of four inspectors and headed by Mr. Azad Vekilov. With the team arrived a delegation from the Office of the Special Commission, composed by Mr. Nikita Smidovich, leader of the delegation, Mr. Achim Bierman and Mr. Scott Ritter.

(b) The team's visits focused on the Ibn al-Haytham research centre, with one visit to the Haswah site. The team is still carrying out its activities at the Ibn al-Haytham centre for the purpose of checking that the centre is not engaged in activities prohibited under resolution 687 (1991). The team's work at the Ibn al-Haytham centre is continuing for three more days.

(c) During its meeting with the delegation from the Office of the Special Commission and the head of the team, the Iraqi side said that there was no convincing justification, from the practical and scientific viewpoints, for allocating 30 days for the inspection of a recently established site which had already been visited by three inspection teams and an air reconnaissance team. The Iraqi side also addressed a letter to the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission on 31 January 1993, stating that it had noted that this team had drawn up a programme for the inspection of the Ibn al-Haytham centre that differed from the work schedules of previous inspection teams. Nevertheless, the Iraqi authorities provided the necessary assistance to facilitate the team's mission, on the basis of resolution 687 (1991).

(d) The delegation from the office of the Special Commission made a surprise visit to the armour dismantling centre at Haswah, before leaving for Bahrain on 29 January 1993.

3. Chemical destruction team (UNSCOM 38)

The chemical destruction team has been working continuously at the Muthanna General Establishment since 18 June 1992. The team is overseeing operations for the destruction of chemical weapons and ammunition at this site.

4. Activities of the Special Commission helicopter unit

From 24 to 30 January 1993, the unit carried out the tasks entrusted to it. The Iraqi side cooperated with the unit, facilitated its work and provided security. The unit carried out seven flights to transport inspection teams, and the inspection and air reconnaissance teams made four flights during which six sites were reconnoitred and photographed.

II. Return of property

During this month (January 1993) the operation of the hand-over of military equipment belonging to the Air Force continued at the Iraqi hand-over point south of Safwan. The following were handed over:

1.	Mk 20 cluster-bomb mod 6	1,028
2.	Mk 82 Finz bombs	3,180
3.	Mk 84 Fiz bombs	544
4.	Mk 15 bombs mod 4	10
5.	Mk 84 cradle bombs	334

III. United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

Iraq continued to extend cooperation and provide facilities to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM).

The Iraqi side withdrew the six Iraqi border police posts, and the report of the Secretary-General (S/25058/Add.1) mentioned, on 19 January 1993, that Iraq had withdrawn the above-mentioned police posts on 17 January 1993.

Annex II

Information bulletin

We give below a summary of the steps taken by the Iraqi side during January/February 1993 pursuant to resolution 687 (1991).

I. Inspections teams

1. Missiles inspection team (UNSCOM 48)

During this month, the team continued its work at the Ibn al-Haytham centre, having begun on 25 January 1993. The team is holding meetings with the centre's technicians and making rounds of inspection inside the divisions of the centre.

2. Missiles inspection team (UNSCOM 50)

The missiles inspection team (UNSCOM 50) arrived in Iraq on 12 February 1993. The team was composed of 13 inspectors and headed by the Frenchman Patrice Palanque. In the evening of the same day, the head of the team met with the Iraqi side and raised the question of foreign suppliers. The reply was that the Iraqi side is waiting to receive from the Special Commission a list of the questions relating to this subject, which must be in the form of a list submitted all at once. When we receive these questions, we shall consider them and study the response in a serious manner.

The team visited 20 different sites, including sites having no relation to resolution 687 (1991), such as the machinery and heavy agricultural equipment repair plant, a Department of the Baghdad Municipality, a technical institute and vocational centres for teaching students. The team followed the method of surprise visits in its inspection, and the number of surprise visits totalled 18.

The team was scheduled to leave the country on 22 February 1993, but it decided to extend its visit by one day so that it merged with UNSCOM 51, which arrived suddenly.

3. Missiles inspection team (UNSCOM 51)

UNSCOM 51 arrived in Iraq on 22 February 1993. The team was composed of 23 inspectors with various specializations and headed by the Russian Nikita Smidovich.

On the same day that it arrived, the team paid a surprise visit to the Yarmuk General Establishment and a military unit near the installation, as well as a missiles school in the Abu Ghraib area, after merging with team 50 inside the Yarmuk General Establishment.

The technical and practical preparations for this team's mission were careful and thorough, inasmuch as the work of the chemical destruction team was halted and it was withdrawn abruptly, on the grounds that it was necessary to do maintenance work on the team's equipment and vehicles. The work of the missiles team (UNSCOM 48) at the Ibn al-Haytham centre was halted for the same reason as mentioned above.

On the night UNSCOM 51 arrived, the inspectors prepared 16 small vehicles, in addition to ambulances and communications vehicles, and equipped them with communications materials, foodstuffs and other supplies, which indicated that the operation would be long and difficult. A number of the inspectors belonging to the chemical destruction team were also designated to drive some of the vehicles.

The inspection and air reconnaissance team demarcated two square areas to be reconnoitred, one of them on the following day. The time set for the take-off coincided with the departure of UNSCOM 50 from the hotel and the arrival of UNSCOM 51 from Bahrain, and it seemed as though the next operation was to be carefully arranged so that all these teams would converge in one place.

In fact, UNSCOM 51 proceeded to Baghdad immediately upon its arrival on 22 February 1993, with timing that ensured a meeting with UNSCOM 50 while the air reconnaissance team was over the Yarmuk General Establishment. At the same time, the United States U-2 spy plane overflew the same area.

All the Establishment's facilities were most carefully inspected, including bathrooms, lavatories and outside parks, for the purpose of stumbling on any article, however elementary, that might, even indirectly, be linked to the surface-to-surface missiles banned under resolution 687 (1991). The neighbouring training school and missile squadron were inspected by the same method and by helicopter overflight, but they found nothing at all, since Iraq complies with the above-mentioned resolution and has fulfilled all its commitments thereunder.

UNSCOM 50 and UNSCOM 51 left the country on 23 February 1993, for Bahrain.

4. Visit of the Vice-Chairman of the Special Commission

On 12 February 1993, the Deputy Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, Mr. Gordon, arrived in the country to follow up and monitor the tasks entrusted to the inspection teams present in the country. He visited Muthanna Establishment with the chemical destruction team (UNSCOM 27) and also accompanied the air reconnaissance team on two occasions.

On 13 February 1993, a meeting was held between the Director of the Military Manufacturing Corporation, Mr. Gordon, the head of UNSCOM 50 and his deputy. The Director of the Corporation focused on the following points:

(a) The readiness of the Iraqi side to cooperate with the Special Commission in implementing resolution 687 (1991);

(b) The readiness of the Iraqi side to give serious consideration to the subject of "suppliers" once the Special Commission had put forward a list of starting-points;

(c) The need for the Special Commission to fulfil its reciprocal obligations laid down in paragraph 22 of resolution 687 (1991); and a reference to the implementation of paragraph 14 of the same resolution.

5. Chemical destruction team (UNSCOM 38)

The chemical destruction team (UNSCOM 38) has been continuing its work at the Muthanna General Establishment since 18 June 1992. The team has continued during this month to supervise the destruction of chemical weapons and ammunition at the site.

6. Helicopter unit of the Special Commission

During the period from 1 to 24 February 1993, the unit has been carrying out the tasks assigned to it with cooperation and facilitation from the Iraqi side. The unit has made 17 flights to transport inspection teams, and the air reconnaissance team has made 14 flights, during which it has reconnoitred, inspected and photographed 27 sites.

II. Return of property

1. During this month (February 1993) the operation of the hand-over of military equipment belonging to the Air Force continued at the Iraqi hand-over point south of Safwan. The operation of the hand-over of all air equipment and weapons belonging to the Kuwaiti Air Force was completed on 16 February 1993, except for a damaged C-130 aircraft located at the Suwayrah airfield, since the repair companies' bids had not been received. That was as agreed on with the United Nations Representative in Baghdad.

2. On 28 February 1993, in the Safwan area, the operation of the first phase of the hand-over of heavy military equipment was begun. This operation includes Chieftain tanks, armoured and transport vehicles and artillery pieces of miscellaneous types and sizes. It will last for more than three months.